# midnight

VOL. 23 — NO. 47 ® MAY 10, 1977 Ⓕ 30¢


**Ordered To Buy Rifles For A 'Hit', Ex-CIA Agent Tells...**

# How I Helped Murder JFK

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## Aaaaaay! It's Fonzie's Life Story PART II

...The Bath He Cried Himself To Sleep In

...The 'Happy Days' Audition He Almost Blew

...The $$ He Turned Down

It's All On Pages 10 And 11

## Farrah's Wild Weekends With The Bionic Boy

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LEE MAJORS solos in the mountains... Farrah plays doubles with Bionic Boy Vince Van Patten in Texas.

"We heard those rumors about Farrah and some 19-year-old way down here in Houston," a hometown source reported.

"Lee and I are living like strangers now," says Farrah.

**PLUS** In Your Story-Packed MIDNIGHT

**How Marilyn Monroe Dressed To Woo A President**

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**Can You Really Cope With Retirement?**

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## THE TERROR THAT WARPED PATTY HEARST

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MID NIGHT 5-10-77

# Ex-CIA gun expert reveals more shocking details in the

By J. DAVID TRUBY
MIDNIGHT Contributing Editor

**Robert D. Morrow. Remember the name.**

**For when the truth about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy is finally written into our history books, his name will be on Page 1.**

**By his own admission, Robert D. Morrow, acting on CIA orders, supplied the gun that killed the President.**

This is what he recently testified in secret hearings before the House Select Committee on Assassinations. But more than that, it is Morrow's story of a far-reaching conspiracy, in which Lee Harvey Oswald was set up as a patsy, that led to the formation of the controversial committee in the first place.

Unwittingly, Morrow played a vital part in the successful conspiracy to kill Kennedy.

From 1961 to 1964, he was employed by the CIA as a specialist in weaponry and electronic equipment. Based on his experiences during those years, and additional information supplied by CIA and FBI agents, Morrow put together a book called "Betrayal." It was that book which prompted Congressman Thomas A. Downing to push for a re-investigation into the assassination and become the committee's first chairman.

**As Morrow's story goes, Jack Ruby, a group of anti-Castro Cubans and a right-wing faction within the CIA engineered the assassination.**

Three teams of professional "hit" men took up positions in Dallas' Dealey Plaza on November 22, 1963, and fired on the President, says Morrow. Lee Harvey Oswald, who was a CIA agent, was set up to take the rap.

The plan, as detailed in "Betrayal," is sophisticated, intricate — and open to some question, since it's largely based on second-hand information. But the role that Morrow himself played is difficult to dispute.

**"I bought the rifles that may have been used to kill President Kennedy because the CIA ordered me to," he says flatly.**

**"The so-called Oswald rifle was not the actual murder weapon and Lee Oswald didn't shoot anyone.**

"Oswald's rifle was a 6.5 mm Mannlicher-Carcano rifle while the ones I bought were the 7.35 mm models. The ones I bought were selected specifically as sniper rifles and were quite excellent weapons.

"The Oswald rifle was by comparison, a piece of inaccurate junk."

For years ballistics experts have been concurring with this assessment of Oswald's rifle. They say it could not possibly have discharged three bullets in 6.3 seconds — the measured time in which the shots were fired. And not even expert marksmen have been able to duplicate Oswald's alleged accuracy using the clumsy outmoded weapon.

To the layman, the numbers 6.5 mm (Oswald's rifle) and 7.35 mm (Morrow's rifles) don't mean much. The weapons are look-alikes. But the difference between them, all experts agree, is tremendous.

"A switch was made somewhere in the confusion after the President's murder," Morrow continued, "so the Oswald rifle would be found for evidentiary purposes and the real killers could escape with the actual murder weapons, in all probability, the 7.35 mm Mannlicher-Carcano rifles I bought on CIA orders."

A declassified CIA memo, written just six days after the assassination, lends strong support to Morrow's statements.

**"The weapon which appears to have been employed in this criminal act is a model 91 rifle, 7.35 caliber, 1938 modification," the CIA document notes.**

**Somewhere, somehow in the chaotic days that followed the assassination, that description was mysteriously changed to fit Oswald's rifle.**

Yet that same CIA document states that the 6.5 mm rifles (Oswald's) were sold to American arms dealers for as little as $1.10 each. The weapons were imported into the U.S. classed as scrap iron.

In addition, according to a number of gun experts, Oswald's rifle was a downright danger to anyone who fired it. As the dean of arms experts Jack O'Connor wrote in his text "The Rifle Book," the 6.5 Mannlicher-Carcano rifle "has a coy habit of blowing the firing pin out in the shooter's face."

How then does Morrow believe the weapons he innocently obtained ended up being used to kill President Kennedy? And how were the conspirators able to incriminate Lee Harvey Oswald as the lone assassin?

Morrow says he managed to piece together the chilling tale from a variety of confidential sources.

"There was an on-going conspiracy to kill President Kennedy within a right-wing Cuban exile group with strong CIA connections," he explains.

"This group was headquartered in New Orleans and was under the control of Clay Shaw, a CIA agent."

This is the same Clay Shaw accused by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison of being a conspirator in the assassination. He was acquitted of this charge in 1967, and Garrison was held up to considerable ridicule as a result.

**"The conspiracy to murder the President," Morrow goes on, "revolved operationally around Clay Shaw, his Cubans, plus some American mercenaries with both Mafia and CIA connections.**

"Jack Ruby, David Ferrie and Guy Bannister, all CIA agents, coordinated the effort, while Ruby hand-picked his friend Lee Oswald, another CIA employee, as the

A MIDNIGHT In-Depth Report

# How I

**'A switch was made in the confusion so the Oswald rifle would be found and the real killers could escape'**

DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION

PROCESSING ACTION

MARKED FOR INDEXING

NO INDEXING REQUIRED

ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING

MICROFILM

TO

INFO.

FROM

SUBJECT: REPORT PREPARED FOR DEFENSE MINISTER CONCERNING THE TYPE RIFLE ALLEGEDLY USED BY LEE OSWALD IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCE

Report on type of rifle used in Kennedy assassination

1. SHORTLY AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY DEFENSE MINISTER/ REQUESTED THE SERVICE TO FURNISH HIM A REPORT COVERING THE CHARACTERISTICS AND POSSIBLE ORIGIN OF THE RIFLE ALLEGEDLY USED IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. THIS REPORT WAS PREPARED/ AND FORWARDED/ . . . WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ASCERTAIN THE EXACT REASON/ REQUESTED THIS REPORT OR WHAT, IF ANY, DISPOSITION HE MADE OF IT. SET OUT BELOW IS A TRANSLATION OF THE REPORT IN QUESTION--

28 NOVEMBER 1963

INFORMATION ON THE WEAPON PRESUMABLY USED IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

1. AS REGARDS ARTICLES APPEARING RECENTLY IN THE ITALIAN AND FOREIGN PRESS CONCERNING THE PRESUMED USE OF AN ITALIAN-MADE RIFLE IN THE SLAYING OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE MADE.

2. THE WEAPON WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED IN THIS CRIMINAL ATTACK IS A MODEL 91 RIFLE, 7.35 CALIBER, 1938 MODIFICATION

**This first CIA memo accurately describes the murder rifle — but later the evidence was ignored**

# Experts Are Sure The Murder Weapon Wasn't The One Used As Evidence

**Even The FBI Was Skeptical**

**There is a great deal of independent evidence to support Robert Morrow's claim that Oswald's 6.5 mm rifle was not the murder weapon — and that the look-alike 7.35 mm which he supplied was really the instrument used to kill President Kennedy.**

**Consider the following:**

**Sylvia Meagher, a scholarly researcher and Warren Commission critic, states: "The mail order rifle Oswald ordered from the Chicago sporting goods store was 36 inches long. The rifle the police brought out of the Texas School Book Depository measured 40.2 inches long.**

**"Further," she says, "examination of the photographs easily shows that the front sight of the Oswald rifle is tapered, while the rifle removed from the building has a round front sight."**

**Canadian firearms expert John Minnery contributed this assessment: "The length and configuration of the stock appears different in each weapon.**

**"Also, the wooden stock of the rifle displayed for the press in Dallas on November 22, 1963 is shorter than that of the weapon the Commission claimed was Oswald's.**

**"I am convinced," Minnery asserts, "that the murder weapon in Dallas that day was probably the 7.35 mm Mannlicher-Carcano sniper model rifle. The 6.5 mm rifle owned by Oswald was probably used solely as evidence."**

**Even the FBI is skeptical about Oswald's rifle. The Bureau's experts noted that the weapon had "wear and rust" and those agents who test-fired it expressed grave concern that it might explode.**

**J. Edgar Hoover himself, in a memo to the Warren Commission, reported that the telescopic sight on Oswald's rifle "could not be properly aligned with the target."**

**And finally, the FBI experts noted that the telescopic sight on the Oswald rifle had been mounted for a left-handed shooter. Oswald was righthanded.**

A POLICE PHOTOGRAPH of the rifle used as evidence against Oswald.

# Helped To Murder Kennedy

## 'I bought the rifles that may have been used to kill President Kennedy because the CIA ordered me to'

ROBERT D. MORROW, former CIA agent, with one of the 7.35 mm rifles he bought for the "kill Kennedy" conspiracy.

patsy for the murder.

"Jack Ruby discovered that Oswald had purchased an obsolete 6.5 mm Italian rifle through a mail order house, using one of his CIA aliases. Ruby passed this information along to Shaw, Bannister and Ferrie when they met in New Orleans in July of 1963.

"This is when they decided to make the hit using the highly accurate 7.35 mm rifle, which looks just like the inferior 6.5 mm version that Oswald owned.

"I've been told that Bannister got the idea of getting the 7.35 mm sniper rifles, and using fragmentation ammunition for the murder."

A fragmentation bullet, it should be noted, disintegrates on contact with human bone.

"Then," Morrow continues, "the conspirators would plant a few bullets pre-fired from Oswald's rifle as evidence.

"The plotters agreed and Clay Shaw, as a CIA officer, contacted the Agency to request 7.35 mm Mannlicher-Carcano rifles for a 'mission involving his Cubans out of the country,' as he told the CIA people in Washington."

Morrow says, "This is here I became involved. My case officer called me and ordered me to purchase four such rifles. I was later to learn that Clay Shaw had told the case officer that he was going to have his Cubans hit Juan Bosch, an old CIA enemy who was a close ally of Fidel Castro.

**"My case officer specified the 7.35 mm sniper model, which involved nothing more than my selecting units for superior workmanship. I located the rifle at the Sunny Surplus Store in nearby Towson, Maryland. I bought four rifles, two that day and two later.**

"In the meantime," Morrow continued, "to get the 'patsy' involved, David Ferrie had contacted Oswald. The two knew each other from both CIA work and from being in the same Civil Air Patrol unit.

"Ferrie convinced Oswald that Shaw's CIA group wanted to have a look at Oswald's 6.5 mm Mannlicher-Carcano rifle because they were considering using weapons like this on a special mission out of the country.

"Actually," Morrow concluded, "they only wanted his rifle so they could fire some bullets into cotton for later use as planted evidence.

"Their hitmen would make the kill with the superior 7.35 mm sniper rifles using fragmentation bullets, which would shatter on impact and be almost impossible to trace. They would leave Oswald's rifle and cartridges as evidence for the police to find.

"Then Jack Ruby would plant at least one already-fired bullet from Oswald's rifle at Parkland Hospital. Police work and publicity did the rest."

**Morrow's last point, that Ruby planted a cartridge on an empty stretcher — the one used to carry wounded Texas Governor John Connally — is at least partially documented. Ruby was at Parkland Hospital only minutes after the President and the Governor were rushed in.**

There has been much controversy about that bullet which Ruby allegedly planted. It is the "magic" bullet which supposedly hit both Kennedy and Connolly yet remained in pristine condition.

After Morrow purchased the rifles, he explains, they were picked up at his home in Roseland, Maryland by a Cuban CIA courier.

"I gave the courier only three of the four rifles because one had a defective machine screw," he adds. "I still have that fourth rifle in my possession today."

Robert D. Morrow is convinced that a rifle identical to the one he owns was used to kill Kennedy.

He is convinced that CIA agent Lee Harvey Oswald was set up as a patsy by a conspiracy of anti-Castro Cubans and a right-wing splinter group of CIA dissidents.

He believes that after the assassination, Oswald's rifle was switched with the real murder weapon.

And he is convinced that by following CIA orders, he unknowingly played a key role in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Robert D. Morrow is the man who supplied the gun.

## The Accuser And The Accused

LIKE ROBERT MORROW, New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison (left) accused Clay Shaw (center) of conspiracy to murder JFK. Now Morrow has also named David Ferrie pictured right shortly before his death.